(b)whethe it is a fact that Railways has incurred heavy loss for providing refreshmints to railway passengers since last so mauy years as Railways does not offer any suthsidy thereon:

(c) if so the details therefor : and

(e) the dekails of steps taken or proposed to be taken for providing quafity and fresh refireshmints to railiway passengers at ostensible price by avoiding lossis theron?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRIR VEKU) (a) There are about 468 long distance mail/Express rains which presently do not have pabtry car and approximately 250 Mail/Express trains inctuding rajdani Shatabdi trans are runnning with Pantry Cars.

(d)and(c) Based on costing mithodology, losses have been incurred by Indian Railways on catering services as a whole this is maily due to the reeason that total cost of catsring services which inter-alia includes running cost of pantry car and terminal cost of both pabtry cars and stationery units is more than eannings formthesre servic

(d) In order to provide quaity and fresh refreshments at reasonaible price whth a view to avoid losses Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been set up to upgrade, professionalise and manage the cattering service and upgrade the quality of food and eamings Refreshment Rooms Automatic Vending Machines Food Plzas and Stals have been estabilshed through reputed and experiened caterers Ragular and suuprise checks are conducted by offcials of Railways/IRCTS to montor quatity quantity tarfit of catering services. Licences are being aw-arded through two packet open tender system on competitve basis in which a minimum of 12%of sales turmover is fixed as floor price and licmce is awa-rded to the highest bidder. sales of units are assessed realistically to avied losses to Railways

Rail accident at datia

1925. SHRI KALRAJ MISHIRA;
SHRI LILIT SURI:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT

will the minister og RAWAYS be pleased to state ;

(a)whther the gwalior Bundelkand Expeased jumped of tracks

and crashed into a signal cabin near Daia railway station on 3rd October 2005;

(b) the number of persons who lost their lives and those who were injured as a result thereof alongwith the number passers by, in addition to passengers and railway employees;

(c) whether any ex-gratia payment has been made in respect of all those affected separately;

(d) whether an inquiry into the mishap has been held ; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RALWAY (SHRI R, VBLU): (a) and (b) yes, Sir:.. in this unfortunate accident 13 persons (11 passengers and 2 Railway staff) and 2 Railway staff) were grievousty injured and 25 passengers sustained simple injuries

(c) An ex-gratia relief of Rs.1 Iakh was amounced, out of which Rs.. 15000/- has been made to the each case of grievously injured passengers and grievously injured railway employees as well Ex-gratia paument of Rs 5000/-simple injuries except me..

(d) and (e) As per procisional findings contained in Preliminary Reportof Commissioner of Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle the accident occurred due to non appocation of brades resulting in the train running through sand hump though starter signal for down loop line was showing red aspect being a stopping station

Inadequate fund for rati projects in Kerala

1926.SHRI K CHANDRAN PILLI;Will the Ministry of railway be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inadequate gund alloction to various railway the State of Kerala is hampering the progress of these projects;

(b) if so, the delails of projects of which work has been delayed due to the above reason, project-wise and

(c) the details of steps taken to rectify the same?